

When all's said and done, the question is why did Bascom Field go to war at all? Contrasting opinions exist as to why the United States went to war, swinging from "making the world safe for Democracy," to "Making the world safe to Democrats," and the sign of the dollar" as opposed to "The sign of the Cross."

Scatter brained youth, adventure loving idlers, those craven of public opinion and a dozen different shades went—volunteers or by draft.

But Bascom Field, an expert in a profession, needed at home; educated, not emotional; a producer, a man of mental poise, a thinker, a student, a Christian. Why did he volunteer at the start? Why did he advocate intervention long before it came? He was only one. He was not needed vitally. Why did he, an American, calmly, quietly, and courageously stand on the parapet of a trench in France, while he directed his men to shelter, and meet his piece of war torn German steel face forward and thus destroy the whole plan of his life?

Simply because it was the right thing to do. That's literally all. It was the right thing to do and he did it.

And thereby and therein lies the hope of this world.

Profiteers, apostles of hate, disciples of greed, practitioners of lust and lovers of ignorance, liberated by the churn of war may scum the surface of our National life for time to come.

But the Bascom Fields who are alive will finally prevail, and were not some to die as did this Bascom Field we might fail to know we had them.

Bascom Field dead?

He will live years from now in the lives and hearts of millions who never knew him in the flesh!

Why?

Because he did the right thing simply because it was the right thing to do.

